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(56) Documents Cited

GB 2247158 A
DE 029813724 U
US 5125361 A

GB 1415574 A
JP 2001204291 A

(58) Field of Search

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Other:

(54) Abstract Title

A tread for a pet rodent exercise wheel

(57) A tread made of semi-rigid card to fit around the circumference of the exercise wheel to enable small mammals to use the wheel more easily. Supplied as a flat sheet with treads of differing sizes marked out in a variety of perforated forms. On fitting the correct sized tread around the outside of the wheel it is secured using the attached glue strip which sticks to the overlap of material.

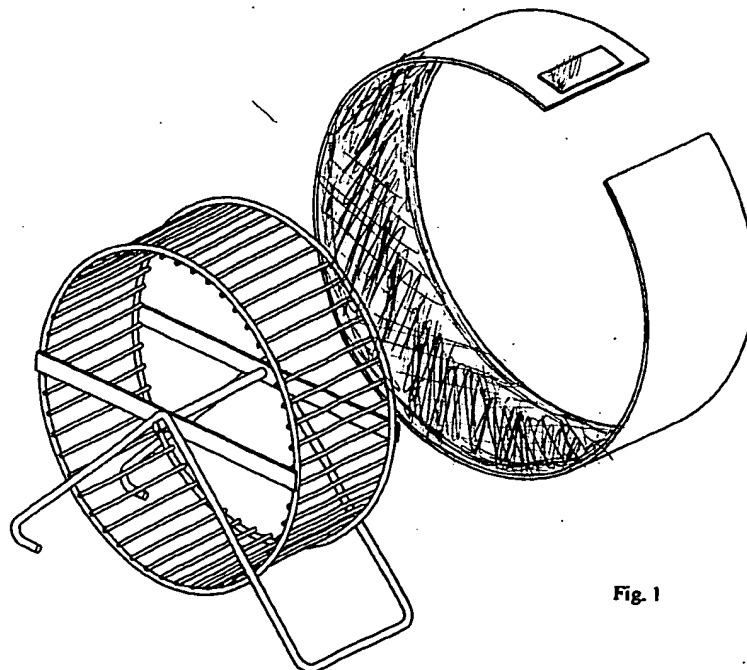


Fig. 1

GB 2 384 967

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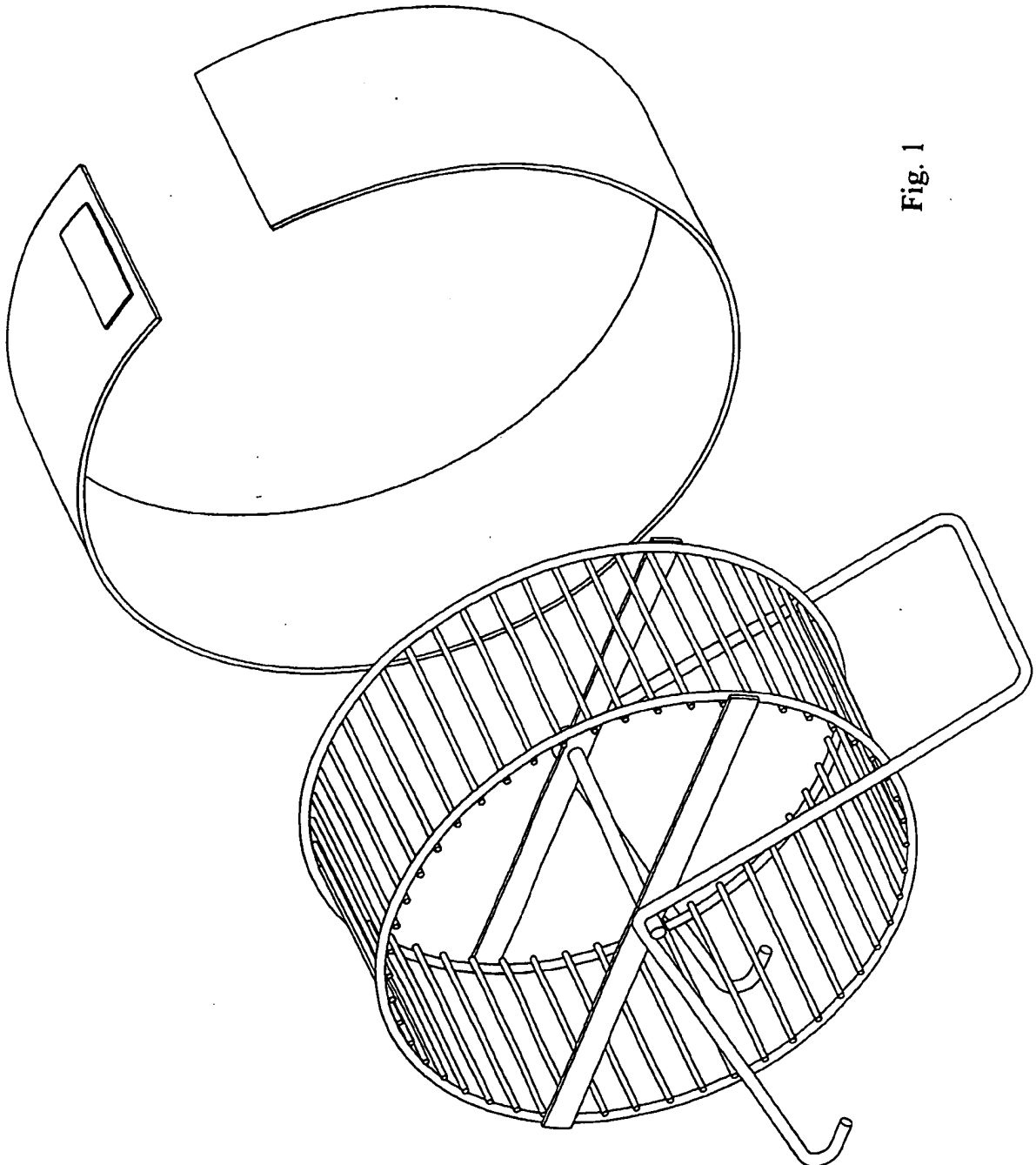


Fig. 1

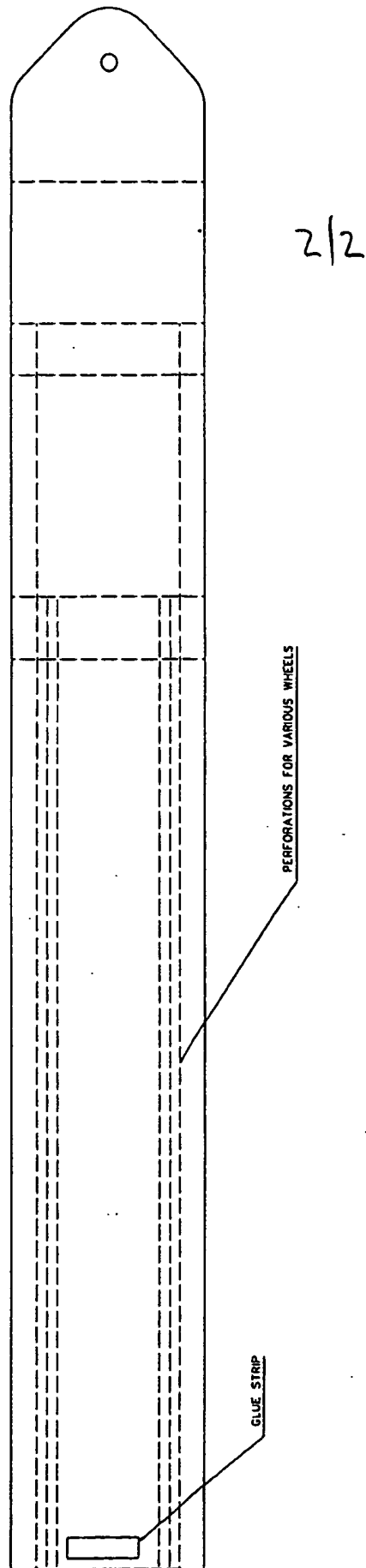


Fig. 2



PET RODENT EXERCISE WHEEL TREAD

This invention relates to a pet rodent exercise wheel tread.

Pet rodent exercise wheels are in common use for domestic pet rodents and generally consist of a circular frame arrangement of a variety of sizes in which the animal can exercise causing the wheel to rotate.

Because many of these devices consist of an open framework, the animals are restricted to precise movements to gain full rotation of the wheel.

According to the present invention the current wheel designs can be enhanced by the simple installation of an inexpensive wheel tread. The tread will consist of a semi-rigid length of card that can be fitted to the outside of the existing circular frame. In order to permit installation to a variety of wheel widths and sizes the card will be supplied as a flat sheet with a choice of perforations to suit the relevant wheel. In addition, a glue strip is provided at one end of the sheet to secure the tread in place.

To present additional novelty to the design the card will be printed with images depicting a particular theme to the tread i.e. landscape or circus scenery.

A specific embodiment of the invention will now be described by way of an example with reference to the accompanying drawing in which:

Figure 1 shows an isometric view of a generic exercise wheel frame with a sample card tread removed from the supplied sheet and formed to the correct shape prior to installation.

Figure 2 shows the tread in supplied flat sheet form without the printed image.

Referring to the drawing the wheel tread comprises of a flat sheet with a variety of perforations that will permit the pet owner to choose the size of tread to best suit their exercise wheel.

Once the tread is removed from the flat sheet it is formed into a circular shape and installed on to the outside of the exercise wheel. Finally, the ends of the tread are secured together using the glue strip.

2.

CLAIMS

- 1 A pet rodent exercise wheel tread in the form of a flat sheet which is then wrapped around an existing exercise wheel and secured in place using a glue strip.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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Claims searched: 1

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Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.T): A1M MCA

Int Cl (Ed.7): A01K 15/00, 15/02

Other: Online: EPODOC, WPI, JAPIO

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X	GB 2247158 A (EDWARDS) Whole document, especially figure 2.	1
A	GB 1415574 A (METAFRAME CORPORATION) Whole document, especially figures 1 - 10.	-
X	DE29813724 U (BARTEL) Whole document, especially figure 4, and WPI Abstract Accession No. 1998/585252-50.	1
A	JP 2001204291 (YASUKI) Particularly figures 1 & 2	-
A	US 5125361 A (ROWLANDS) Whole document, especially figure 1.	-

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.

